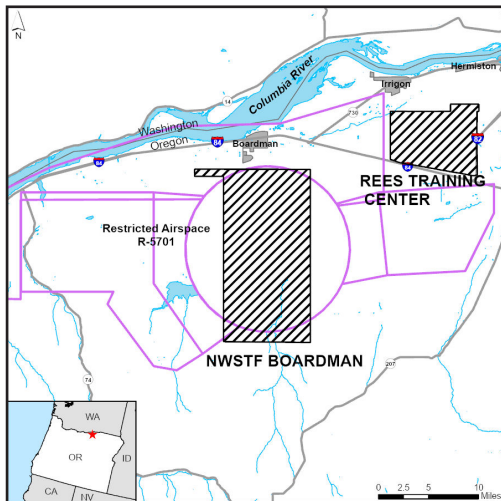




NAVAL WEAPONS SYSTEMS TRAINING FACILITY BOARDMAN

The 47,000-acre Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility (NWSTF) Boardman is a vital training range within the larger area of restricted airspace, military operations area, and military training routes, which are located amid open farmland just south of the Columbia River in Morrow County, Oregon.



This combination of land and airspace provides a strategically important venue for training with the EA-18G airborne electronic attack aircraft. With the airspace extending vertically from the ground up, it is the only viable training area available for naval aviators from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, to conduct low altitude tactical training with these aircraft.

However, development of tall structures, particularly wind turbines and transmission lines, under the restricted airspace presents a significant threat to both the safety

and combat readiness of airborne electronic attack crews. Therefore, the Navy's goal is to protect working farmlands and ranches adjacent to NWSTF Boardman and under the restricted airspace from development pressures while sustaining the low altitude tactical training mission.

Additionally, lands in this area are bisected by the Oregon Trail, which supports habitat for the Washington ground squirrel, a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Protecting existing agricultural land uses provides critical wildlife habitat and protects the military training mission.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves open space, agricultural land, and water rights
- Provides habitat for at-risk species

MILITARY

- Improves operational safety by reducing obstructions to low level flights and impacts to radar line of site
- Supports multiple Military Service(s) missions



EA-18G aircraft from NAS Whidbey Island require flat, unobstructed terrain for low-altitude airborne electronic attack training (top). Wind energy turbines as tall as 500 feet present a significant threat to that training mission (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Northwest Rangeland Trust
- Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

CONTACT

KIMBERLY PEACHER
NWTRC COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND LIAISON OFFICER
(360) 930-4085
kimberly.peacher@navy.mil

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2017 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	9	25,751	\$28.8 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding